



IN
MEMORY
OF
EFFINGHAM WILSON.
—
1868.

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Catherine. Sepell.

With her Brother William's love
August, 1868.



EFFINGHAM WILSON.

TAKEN MARCH 13th, 1862, WHEN 79 YEARS OF AGE.

IN MEMORY
OF
EFFINGHAM WILSON.

" Full of enduring energy and sway,
He took his vital path along life's way ;
Careless alike of envy or detraction,
And Truth his guide in every thought and action.
He ever kept Right's course, work out what might,
But only for the end desired the fight!
Ready the weak to help, the poor to screen,
As all unfretful strength has ever been.
In all life's battles, and in each distress,
He feared but two things—'Sin, and Wickedness.'"—W. W.



LONDON:
PRINTED FOR PRIVATE CIRCULATION.

1868.

LONDON:
EFFINGHAM WILSON, PRINTER,
11, ROYAL EXCHANGE.

In Memory of
EFFINGHAM WILSON,
Who Died the 9th of June, 1868,
IN HIS 85TH YEAR.

Buried at Highgate Cemetery, 15th of June, 1868.



Biographical Sketch

OF THE LATE

EFFINGHAM WILSON.

REPRINTED

From "THE CITY PRESS," of Saturday,
July the 18th, 1868.

THE Obituary in *The Times*, of June 11th, contains the following announcement :—

"On the 9th instant, at the residence of his daughter, 38, Mildmay Park, Mr. EFFINGHAM WILSON, in the 85th year of his age."

From a belief that many may like to know something of the life of one who, in his time, has held a prominent position, both as a publisher and a politician, the following particulars have been hastily put together.

Mr. Wilson was born about 1783, in the parish of Kirby-Ravensworth, near Richmond, in the North Riding of Yorkshire. He was a member of an old Yorkshire family, and the fact of some of his relations having farmed under the Earl of Effingham, induced his parents to give him the distinctive Christian name that he subsequently made so well and widely known. His earliest years were most happily passed in the neighbourhood of the place of his birth, and when still a boy he was removed to Knaresborough, in the same county, where he went to reside with his uncle, Dr. Hutchinson, for the purpose of being educated and trained to the medical profession, for which, at that time, he was destined. Dr. Hutchinson was a celebrated man in his district, and possessed an excellent museum, at that time thought a great deal of in those parts. It was this same Dr. Hutchinson who went out to Knaresborough Moor, in the dead of the night,

and cut down the body of Eugene Aram, which was grimly hanging there in chains, for the purpose of possessing himself of the skull, he being an ardent phrenologist. This skull he secreted for years, and when it eventually came to light, and he admitted that he was the culprit, it was, owing to its peculiarities of formation, the subject of much discussion and controversy amongst phrenologists. Mr. Wilson knew Houseman's widow, the man Houseman who is supposed by many to have been the real murderer of Daniel Clark, and who turned king's evidence. Mr. Wilson, from these early associations, took a deep interest in all concerning the life and fate of Eugene Aram, and possessed an extensive collection of all the works and pamphlets that were, from time to time, issued and published upon that subject. The skull, which he much coveted, and which was at one time promised to him, still remains in the family, and

is now in the possession of Miss Walker, of Malton, in Yorkshire.

Mr. Wilson subsequently determined, from some unexplained cause, to abandon the profession of medicine ; and it is believed that when he left Dr. Hutchinson, he for some time went to reside with a relation named Fall, at Rood Hall, in Yorkshire, on an estate called the Theakston Estate, since purchased by the Duke of Leeds. He left Mr. Fall, after a considerable sojourn, and resolved, when still a youth, to come to London, and seek his fortune in the great city.

Mr. Wilson appears to have selected the publishing business immediately after his arrival in London. He first went to Mr. Aspern's, in Cornhill, whose place was known by the sign of "The Bible, Crown, and Constitution." From Mr. Aspern's he went to Mr. Thomas Hurst, (the firm being Hurst and Robinson,) the Long-

mans joining the house while Mr. Wilson was there, although Mr. Hurst afterwards separated from the now great and foremost house of Longman and Co., with which house Mr. Wilson remained for some years. He formed for Mr. Hurst, from this early time, a warm and enduring friendship, which lasted until the death of that gentleman, a few years since. Many long years after the early time to which we have referred, when Mr. Hurst's fortunes had unhappily changed, Mr. Wilson was chiefly instrumental in securing him a haven in "The Charter House," at which place he died.

After leaving Messrs. Longman's house, and commencing business, Mr. Wilson was for a few years in Paternoster Row, but removed on the 30th of June, 1812, to the south-east corner of the Royal Exchange, which place he never afterwards quitted, except during the rebuilding, after the fire of January 10th, 1838, returning,

so soon as it was again ready, to the same spot which still bears his name. Although, with his wonted prudence, he had taken out and held several fire policies for years, yet, by some unaccountable oversight, the last premiums had not been duly paid ; and when the great fire came, he learnt too late, greatly to his own perplexity, that he was entirely uninsured.

About this period of his life, from some three years before the fire, from 1836 to 1838, Mr. Wilson experienced the truth of the old familiar saying, that "troubles seldom come alone." In 1834 he had established two agencies in America, to which it was his custom to consign large numbers, in many cases entire Editions, of the numerous works he was then publishing ; and it happened that, during the monetary panic from which America suffered in 1836-7, both these agencies succumbed. Scarcely had he recovered from the effects of his heavy losses across the

Atlantic, when the calamitous fire at the Exchange occurred, and he discovered, as we have stated, that instead of being amply covered by insurances, his policies had lapsed, and were consequently void.

On the occasion of the opening of the new Exchange, in 1844, he was most generously congratulated, on his re-establishment, by the public press.

Mr. Wilson was for upwards of sixty years a busy worker in the City, making his corner position celebrated as the birthplace of many useful and instructive commercial, and important political and literary works. He had the longest career, and, we believe, the most independent, public-spirited, and fearless career, of any publisher of his time. He was associated with much brave political work, that has been well, truly, and laboriously done. He was a link between the past and present generations, and

he had consequently seen extraordinary changes. He took at one time an active and dangerous part in politics, on the extreme Liberal side, and was the producer of works for which it was difficult to find a publisher, containing as they did daring onslaughts on the established wrongs of the day.

We extract the following remarks, in support of what we have said, from the *Money Market Review* :—

“ Effingham Wilson was a man of strong impulses, great moral courage, and unswerving determination, of all which his conflict with the leading journal many years ago was a memorable example. The journal in question punished him for years by sedulously ignoring both him and his publications ; but he never condescended to complain. At a later period, when the hatchet was buried between them, Mr. Wilson’s publications were noticed with the

same impartiality as those of other publishers. A feature of the late Mr. Wilson's character was a generous inclination to help those who needed help, either in politics, in literature, or in business ; and there may be many now living who can testify to the value of the services he has rendered to them.

“ He was the publisher of some of the earlier works of Jeremy Bentham. He was the publisher also of Wade's celebrated ‘Black Book,’ in which the pensions and jobberies of the Court and aristocracy of that day were ruthlessly exposed to the indignation of the country. The book, though costly, had an enormous sale, and created an immense sensation, and there is no doubt it contributed much to arouse that spirit which ultimately carried the Reform Bill of 1832. How are times changed since then ! John Wade, the author of that book, is now in the receipt of a pension from the Crown, and the instru-

ment in procuring that pension for him was the son of his old publisher! It may also be mentioned that Mr. Wilson was the first publisher of Alfred Tennyson, and of the works of Thomas Campbell in a complete form."

We will now proceed to give a list of some of the works that have issued from Mr. Wilson's press, although, in the necessarily hurried preparation of this sketch, many that ought to appear will doubtless be omitted. We will follow the list with such few observations, and anecdotes, as we have been able to gather together during the short time that has elapsed since Mr. Wilson passed away :—

LIST OF WORKS.

AKERMAN'S (Jno. Younge) Catalogue of Roman Coins. 2 vols. 1832.

ANDERSON'S (Wm.) London Commercial Dictionary. 1 vol. 1829.

Practical Mercantile Correspondence. 1 vol. 1842.

ANICHINI'S (P.) View of the Roman Catholic
Dogmas. 1 vol. 1828.

AUSTIN'S (MRS.) Characteristics of Goëthe. 3
vols. 1830.

————— Story without an End. Illus-
trated by Harvey. 1 vol. 1832.

BARKER'S (M. H.) Tough Yarns: a Series of
Naval Tales and Sketches. 1 vol. 1834.

————— Land and Sea Tales. 2 vols.
1836.

BENTHAM'S (Jeremy) Plan of Parliamentary
Reform. 1 vol. 1819.

————— Elements of the Art of
Packing, as applied to Special Juries. 1 vol.
1821.

————— Introduction to the Princi-
ples of Morals and Legislation. 2 vols.
1823.

BOOTH'S (David) Tables of Interest on a New
Plan. 4to. boards. 1818.

BOSWELL'S Life of Johnson. 4to. (Dove's.)
1830.

BROWNING'S (Robert) Paracelsus. 1 vol. 1836.

BURGON'S Life of Sir Thomas Gresham. 2 vols.
1839.

CAMPBELL'S (Thos.) Poetical Works. 2 vols.

Illustrated by Westall. 1828.

Life of Mrs. Siddons. 1 vol.
1834.

CLARKE'S (Cowden) Riches of Chaucer. 2 vols.
1835.

COMBE'S (George) Currency Question Considered.
8vo. 1856.

CRABBE'S (Rev. George) Beauties, with a Biographical Sketch. 1 vol. 1832.

DICKENS'S (Charles) Speech, delivered at Drury Lane. 8vo. 1855.

DON QUIXOTE. Edited by Thomas Roscoe. Illustrated by George Cruikshank. 2 vols. 1833.

DOUBLEDAY'S (Thomas) Financial History of England. 1 vol. 1846.

FENN'S Compendium of the English and Foreign Funds. 1 vol. 1837.

FIELD BOOK (The). 1 vol. With numerous Illustrations. 1828.

FITZGEORGE: a Novel. (George IV.) 3 vols. 1834.

GILBART'S (William) A Practical Treatise on Banking. 1 vol. 1847.

GIL BLAS. Edited by Thomas Roscoe. Illustrated by George Cruikshank. 2 vols. 1833.

GOSCHEN'S (The Right Hon. Geo. J.) Theory of the Foreign Exchanges. 1 vol. 1861.

GUMERSALL'S (F. B.) Tables of Interest. 1 vol. 1836.

HANKEY'S (Thomson, M.P.) Principles of Banking. 1 vol. 1865.

HARTLEY'S (Cecil) British Genius Exemplified. 1 vol. 1830.

————— English Poetry Familiarised. 1 vol. 1832.

HAZLITT'S (William) Life of Napoleon. 4 vols. 1832.

HORNE'S (R. H.) Exposition of the False Medium, &c. 1 vol. 1832.

HOWITT'S (William) History of Priestcraft. 1 vol. 1836.

————— Aristocracy of England: a History of the People. 1 vol. 1846.

————— (Mary) Sketches of Natural History. 1 vol. 1834.

HUGO'S (Victor) Hunchback of Notre Dame. 3 vols. 1830.

JACKSON'S (George) Bookkeeping. 1 vol. 1836.

JUNIUS REDIVIVUS: the Political Unionist Catechism. 1 vol. 1833.

KNOWLES'S (James Sheridan) the Elocutionist :
a Collection of Pieces in Prose and Verse.
1 vol. 1831.

MAZZINI'S (Joseph) Attack on Napoleon III.
8vo. 1858.

MIRABEAU'S (G. R.) Letters during his Residence
in England. (Never before published in
any language.) 2 vols. 1817. With
Portrait.

MONTALEMBERT'S (Count) Picture of England,
painted by a Frenchman. 8vo. 1858.

MURAT'S (Achille, son of the King of Naples)
North America : a Moral and Political
Sketch. 1 vol. 1832.

NICHOLSON'S (N. A.) Science of the Exchanges.
1 vol. 1861.

PECHIO'S (Count) The Italian in England.
1 vol. 1832.

PUCKLER MUSKAU'S (Prince) Tour of a German
Prince. 4 vols. 1832.

REFORMER (The) : a Novel. 3 vols. 1834.

RUSHTON'S (Edward) Poems and Life. 1 vol.
1830.

RUSSELL'S (Earl) Speech, delivered at Guildhall.
8vo. 1859.

SARRAN'S (B.) The Glorious Three days : Lafayette, Louis Philippe, and the Revolution of 1830 : the History of the Events and Men of July. 2 vols. 1831.

SMITH'S (Dr. James Walter) Celebrated Series of Legal Handy Books. 1858-1862.

STEVENS'S (Robert) An Essay on Averages. 1 vol. 1828.

STIRLING'S (John) Coningsby : a Novel. 3 vols. 1833.

STRICKLAND'S (Miss) Floral Sketches, Fables, and Poems. 1 vol. 1836.

SUNDAY IN LONDON. Illustrated by George Cruikshank. 1 vol. 1835.

TALES OF OTHER DAYS. Illustrated by George Cruikshank. 1 vol. 1832.

TATE'S (William) Cambist : a Manual of the Foreign Exchanges. 1 vol. 1830.

TENNYSON'S (Alfred) First Volume of Poems. 1 vol. 1830.

THOMPSON'S (Colonel) Catechism of the Corn Laws. 8vo. 1827.

Exercises, Political and Others. 6 vols. 1842.

TURNLEY'S (Joseph) Popery in Power ; or, the Spirit of the Vatican. 1 vol. 1850.

WADE'S (John) Extraordinary Black Book : an Exposition of the Incomes, Privileges, and Power of the Aristocracy, &c. 1 vol. 1830.

———— History of the Middle and Working Classes. 1 vol. 1835.

———— Cabinet Lawyer : a Digest of the Laws of England. 1 vol. 1837.

———— British History Chronologically Arranged. 1 vol., pp. 1,154. 1842.

———— Unreformed Abuses in Church and State. 1 vol. 1849.

WAKEFIELD'S (Edward Gibbon) Facts Relating to the Punishment of Death in the Metropolis. 1 vol. 1832.

WALTON'S Ready Reckoner. 1 vol. 1832.

WHITEHEAD'S (Charles) The Solitary : a Poem. 1 vol. 1849.

WINKLE'S Cathedral Churches of England and Wales. 3 vols. 1836. Profusely illustrated.

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Many of the works published by Mr. Wilson have gone through numerous editions, and some

have existed for years, and have become accepted standard Commercial Works. Mr. Wilson has also published at different times a considerable number of Educational Works, amongst them the works of M. Merlet, and M. Le Page, and some by the well-known Mr. Pinnock. One of the earliest cheap periodicals, in 1830-31, entitled, "The Parterre," was his, and had for some time considerable success. Mr. Wilson also started, in the very earliest days of the railway system, "The Railway Journal," but this paper was, at the period of its first production, before its time. He sold it to Mr. Herapath, who attached his name to the paper, and it became afterwards a great property. He published for many years, and his house still publishes, a larger number of pamphlets than any other firm in the trade, and his was the house that has acted for a long time past for most of the great City magnates. Within the last few years he has published for the Right

Hon. G. J. Goschen, for Mr. R. Wigram Crawford, M.P., and for Mr. Thomson Hankey, M.P. He published, for the Administrative Reform Association, the Speech of Mr. Charles Dickens, delivered at Drury Lane Theatre ; and, for the Liberal Registration Association, a Speech of Earl Russell, delivered at Guildhall, on the occasion of a contested election. It has been his invariable custom to print upon the title-page of his books a grasshopper, that being the crest of Sir Thomas Gresham, and the sign of the grasshopper having always been placed upon the tower of the Royal Exchange, immediately above his place of business.

At a time when a Testimonial was presented to Mr. Wilson, the following account of the services he had rendered to the Reform cause of 1832 was put forward by his friends :—

1806.—Published “A Plain Letter to H.R.H. The Prince of Wales, on his Plain Duties to his Wife, his Child, and his Country.”

Was in consequence served with an Ex-Officio Information by the then Attorney-General, (Sir Vicary Gibbs,) which caused the whole trade to discontinue the sale of it except himself.

1807.—“A Second Plain Letter to H.R.H. The Prince of Wales, wherein his Plain Duties to his Wife, his Child, and his Country, are more plainly shewn than in the first.”

1812.—Published “Materials for Thinking,” by William Burdon, Esq. A threat of prosecution caused many booksellers to abandon the sale of this work.

1815.—Published “Church of Englandism and its Catechism Examined by Jeremy Bentham.” This work caused a considerable sensation in the Church.

1817.—“The Constitutional Primer,” by John Williams.

1819.—“Radical Reform, Restoration of Usurped Rights,” by George Ensor.

1819.—“Radical Reform Bill,” by Jeremy Bentham.

1821.—“The Art of Packing as applied to Special Juries in Cases of Libel Law,” by Jeremy Bentham. This work lay in the hands of the printers for ten years, wanting a publisher, neither the enlightened authors’ former publishers, nor any one in the

trade, being bold enough to risk its publication, till it was undertaken by Effingham Wilson.

1830-2.—Published the “Black Book,” usually known as the “Reformers’ Bible,”—a work which, during the agitation of the Reform Bill, both the London and country newspapers quoted and extracted from to an unprecedented extent, greatly to the advancement of the cause. It is moreover acknowledged, “that the force of its reasoning and integrity of principle” advanced the cause of Reform more than any other publication.

“It contains a mass of information of an extraordinarily curious and personal kind, which must have cost great industry to collect, and the publication of which, even in these times, exhibits more than ordinary courage. The publisher has put himself deep in the obligation of all honest Reformers by this well-timed publication.”—*Morning Chronicle*.

The sale of this work was impeded by the prosecution of several country vendors, but no prosecution was attempted against Mr. Wilson in London.

In the House of Lords, the Bishop of London stated, in reference to the “Black Book,” “That an infamous book had lately been published setting

forth grossly exaggerated statements respecting the revenues of the Church." The late Lord King replied, "That the principal crime of the work in question was that its statements were too true!"

1831.—Published the Tracts of the London Political Union, of the Council of which Mr. Wilson was himself a member, and received a unanimous vote of thanks "for boldly undertaking and zealously promulgating the productions" of that patriotic assembly, which no one else could be found to undertake.

1834-5-6.—Published "The Parliamentary Test and Vote Books."

1835.—Published "The Times Extraordinary." This completely stirred up the venom of that journal, which took occasion to designate him as the "Radical Bookseller of the Royal Exchange," and recommended the partizans of its newly-adopted creed to punish such men by the adoption of "Exclusive dealing" with persons of their own political faith.

This had the effect of producing the following article from a political opponent. "The Carlton Chronicle" said,—"A question idly asked by a contributor as to why a certain volume should have been published by Mr. Effingham Wilson, induces

us to take the opportunity of entering our solemn protest against confounding politics with honest traffic. A publisher has as much right to his political opinion as the prince: if the prince, however radical, enjoys his allowance from the nation with the universal consent, why should not the Radical publisher be allowed the full benefit of his enterprise, industry, and liberality? For ourselves, we have one word to say touching Effingham Wilson. We know that in a case of Whig-Radical oppression, he came forward to give his testimony to the weaker party—for the poor man against the wealthy many, and he did it after a manner so frank and manly, that we hold him high in our respect as an honest Englishman.”—*Carlton Chronicle*, 18th Feb., 1837.

1834-5-6-7.—Published “A Popular History of Priestcraft in all Ages and Nations,” by William Howitt.

“The public are deeply indebted to the publisher of this work for the moral courage displayed by him in giving publicity to its valuable contents in spite of the obloquy and prejudice which will most assuredly be excited against him.”—*Leeds Mercury*.

1835-6.—“Statistics of the Church of England,” by the Author of the “Black Book.”

Mr. Wilson published from time to time nume-

rous other productions in furtherance of the extension of "the Greatest Happiness of the Greatest Number."

The elective franchise (*i. e.*, the livery of the Clothworkers' Company) was withheld from him for 25 years (until the Reform Bill conferred it upon him) on account of his publishing books "inimical to the State," as he was repeatedly told by the dominant Tory faction of that day, who then ruled the affairs of the Company.

Gave evidence before Sir Francis Palgrave, the Commissioner for inquiry into the Corporation Abuses, in reference to the conduct of the Court of the Clothworkers' Company, and proved their gross partiality with respect to him in withholding his livery on account of his political principles.

The result was a considerable extension of the franchise.

Became the relater in the cause of the "Lute Charity," left in trust to the Clothworkers, by which means nearly £700 per annum was appropriated to the poor, which had for almost two centuries been applied to the uses (*i. e.*, abuses) of the Company.

In Dr. Black, editor of the great Liberal Organ, *The Morning Chronicle*, Mr. Wilson had a firm friend on the press, who stood faithfully by him on all occasions. They were on the very best of terms, and at the time of the memorable Reform contest they met constantly, often at the *Chronicle* office, after the fiery debates in the House of Commons, to discuss the effect of each mental fight in the legislative arena, upon the prospects of The Bill, the fate of which they both regarded with so intense and absorbing an interest.

Mr. Wilson was at one time a frequent attendant in the lobby of the House of Commons, when any question of national importance was before the House, being well known to many of the Members. He took a great interest in poor Queen Caroline, and formed one of the deputation who waited upon her with the late Mr. Alderman Matthew Wood. He was a Volunteer at the

time when Napoleon Buonaparte threatened England with invasion, and was justly proud of having been so. He had a great veneration for the memory of Jeremy Bentham, and took his children, and his friends, to the house of Dr. Southwood Smith, to see the body of Jeremy Bentham, which was kept there embalmed, and dressed in the clothes in which he died.

The great General, the Marquess de Lafayette, on the occasion of Mr. Wilson publishing a translation of one of his works, sent him a cordial autograph letter, and a bust of himself.

The novel in the list of works published by Mr. Wilson, entitled "Arthur Coningsby," was written by John Sterling, who was associated, if we are not mistaken, with *The Times* newspaper, and of whom Thomas Carlisle has written a biography.

Mr. Wilson purchased of Thomas Campbell the copyright of his life of "Mrs. Siddons." Camp-

bell was the literary executor of the great tragic actress, and she left to him her Diary. This Diary Mr. Wilson endeavoured to persuade the poet to print, but in vain. The publisher contended, that the public or histrionic life of Mrs. Siddons was well known, and thoroughly appreciated, and that it was these very peeps behind the scenes, given in the pages of a private diary, in which the public would naturally take the deepest interest. Campbell, nevertheless, we think wrongly, was immovable upon this point, and decided to destroy it, or at any rate the greater portion of it.

When Mr. Tennyson forwarded to Mr. Wilson the manuscript of his first poems, from Cambridge, it was accompanied by the manuscript of some poems by Mr. Arthur H. Hallam, the intention at that time being that the poems of the two college friends should appear in the same volume. Mr. Hallam's MS., however, owing we

presume to the advice of critical friends, was eventually withdrawn. It was this same Mr. Hallam in whose honour the Poet Laureate afterwards raised that marvellous mental monument to human friendship, his "In Memoriam."

It will be seen by the two preceding anecdotes that Mr. Wilson published for two Poets-Laureate, Campbell and Tennyson. Mr. Robert Browning was in the Bank of England, in 1836, at the time Mr. Wilson published his "Paracelsus" for him. It was Mr. Browning's first poetical production.

Mr. Wilson visited his friend Hone, in Newgate, the night before his celebrated trials began, in 1817, in order to aid him in the preparation of his defence. However much he may have thought Hone's conduct questionable, and however widely he may have differed from him, both as a matter of taste and feeling, he considered the criminal prosecution to

which Hone was subjected wholly unjustifiable, and, if successful, a pernicious precedent ; and under such circumstances, he concluded that it would, in the hour of peril, be an act of moral cowardice to desert his friend. He was fully borne out in his opinion of the prosecution by the unanimous acquittal of Hone by three special juries, and this in spite of Lord Ellenborough, who, more in the spirit of an advocate than a judge, pleaded hard for a conviction. The public endorsed these verdicts by a subscription of £3,000.

Mr. Wilson was a personal friend of Dr. Birkbeck's, and took a warm and active interest in the establishment of Mechanics' Institutions, and the spread of Popular Education. He contended, in the matter of sound instruction, to use his own phraseology, that every child should "have that given to it which nobody can take away from it." As an apt illustration of how appreciatively alive

he was to the continuity of progress and improvement, scientific as well as political, it may be worth while to mention, that he was the first man in his own district to cause his place of business to be lighted with gas, and that greatly to the terror of his timid neighbours, and in spite of their prophetic remonstrances.

Mr. Wilson used to ride in the steam carriage that at one time ran on the common highway ; and he went the first experimental trip, with the directors, on the Greenwich Railway ; and, as a contrast in one life, he had known the time when it took him four days to go to Margate in a hoy, and a week to go to Edinburgh on a coach.

In 1827, years before the "Anti-Corn Law League" was organized, in 1838, Mr. Wilson published General Perronet Thompson's famous "Catechism of the Corn Laws." Many thousands of this work were sold and circulated,

year after year with persistent industry, until it could be found, with its familiar ark-illustration, in every nook and corner of England. It may be said to have prepared the ground, and sown the seed, for the coming political harvest. In point of argument, this work has been pronounced wonderfully convincing and exhaustive, although the subject received, of course, vast and continuous subsequent illustration. After the long Anti-Corn Law campaign was over and the victory was won, Mr. Cobden, with rare and graceful political generosity, speaking of General Thompson, said, "He was our master, we have all been but pupils in his school." General Thompson has been styled "the earliest and ablest asserter of the principles of Free Trade."

A friend of Mr. Wilson's, a Mr. Maurice, built the Brunswick Theatre, in Wellclose Square, in 1828, which house, a few days after it was opened to the public, fell down during a

rehearsal, crushing the proprietor, and eleven others, in its ruins. Mr. Wilson, after a long search, found the body of Mr. Maurice in the pit, in a painfully mutilated condition ; a friend of Mr. Maurice's, who had been with him in the proscenium box during the accident, and who, when the roof began to fall, had strongly urged him to stay where he was, remaining uninjured. Mr. Wilson had the mournful duty of breaking to the family of his friend the sad intelligence of his terrible death. Mr. Wilson used to tell, with great unction, the story of how a narrow-minded parson thereabout, who, by way of "improving the occasion," had taken upon himself to denounce the theatre as a Godless house, and had presumed to detect the hand of Providence in its destruction, had the steeple of his own church toppled down by lightning during the ensuing summer,—an impartiality of dispensation that must have been obfuscatingly

startling to so self-satisfied an interpreter of Infinite Wisdom. One can well imagine such a man, glasses on nose, gazing with blank amazement, twenty times at least, at the empty space where his steeple once had been, before he could gradually bring his stunned intelligence into a condition to believe it possible.

The following are very characteristic anecdotes, and examples of the sort of personal encounters to which Mr. Wilson's publications at one time rendered him liable :—

Col. Stephenson, " Aide-de-Camp " to the Duke of York, one day called at the Royal Exchange and inquired for Effingham Wilson. Stepping forward, Mr. Wilson said, " That is my name." The Colonel then asked if he was the publisher of "a scandalous pamphlet reflecting on H.R.H. the Duke of York." Mr. Wilson replied, " No, I never issue scandalous publications. I have lately published a

pamphlet, in which H.R. Highness' conduct is truthfully described." Then said the Colonel, "I have come from the Duke with the intention of horse-whipping you," at the same time producing, from under his coat, a formidable whip. Mr. Wilson, nothing daunted by the appearance of his military visitor, or the sight of the weapon, but standing bolt upright, requested the Colonel to fulfil his commission, but, he added, "the moment you lay hands on me, you will find it necessary to make your appearance before the Lord Mayor." The Colonel, acting upon the principle that "discretion is the better part of valour," decided not to execute his commission, but departed, threatening all sorts of vengeance, of which, however, nothing more was ever heard. Those who knew Effingham Wilson as we knew him, will feel pretty certain that had the Colonel but raised his arm to strike, something would have oc-

curred prior to his appearance at the Mansion House.

In 1835, Lord Mayor Winchester called upon Mr. Wilson, to complain of some exposure of corruption issued at that time, and made use of expressions that so irritated the Liberal publisher, that he forcibly ejected his Lordship from his premises. "Figaro in London," the "Punch" of its day (and edited, if we are not in error, by the same Mr. Gilbert Abbot A'Beckett who afterwards became one of the leading contributors to our own "Punch"), contained, on the 31st May, 1835, a Cartoon representing Mr. Wilson in the act of kicking "the King of the City," accompanied by the following, to say the least of them, very outspoken comments, more than hinting at the Corporate jobbery and wrong-doing that had notoriously taken place about that period, as a reference to the journals of the day will amply prove :—

“THE CITY FLARE UP.—To be voted a liar, by a majority of 26, is an honour unexampled in the annals of Civic Magistracy. The manly independence, and honourable consistency, of that patriotic publisher Mr. Effingham Wilson, who is seen kicking out the ass, is in strong contrast with the shuffling and sneaking tergiversation of Lord Winchester. Sir Peter Laurie himself (*et tu Brute*) cried out, ‘Mind your pockets,’ as the Mayor disappeared, and not one word would the dirty-fingered contractors, the plundering stationers, the swindling bill-brokers, who compose the City aristocracy, venture to say in defence of their worthy representative the great Lord Winchester.”

This “great Lord Winchester” was the alderman who, shortly after the termination of his mayoralty, committed self-destruction.

In Public Life Mr. Wilson earnestly desired, to use his favourite expression, manfully to do his all to “leave the world better than he found it;” his oft-repeated idea of the end of all good government was, to use the words of Bentham, “the greatest happiness of the greatest number;”

he cherished tenaciously our hardly-conquered "right of private judgment," which priceless emancipation of the spirit sprang from our glorious Reformation; he spoke ever of the great "Fourth Estate," a Free Press, thus: "It is like the air we breathe: if we have it not, we die;" he frequently made pecuniary sacrifices for causes that he loved, and many a time were his private interests rendered subservient to the public good; he was a staunch Protestant, and a hater of priestly rule and domination, but an advocate for religious as well as civil liberty; and he believed it to be the bounden duty of every good citizen to regard steadfastly Blackstone's patriotic injunction, "The protection of the liberty of Britain is a duty we owe to ourselves, who enjoy it; to our ancestry, who transmitted it down; and to our posterity, who will claim it at our hands as the best birthright and noblest inheritance of mankind."

In Private Life he was full of amenity, kindness, and cheerfulness. He enjoyed excellent health throughout his long life, and used often to remark that he had lived sixty years in London without a headache. He was fond of athletic exercises, and was a first-rate horseman and swimmer. He was devotedly loved by his family, and had many cordial friends, and admirers, amongst all parties in the State. He was touchingly remarkable for one trait,—his beautiful tenderness to little children. His attachment to his native county was singularly strong, and in his later years there was no theme of which he so much loved to talk as of the dear old Yorkshire days. He was twice married. He married very young, and had a very large family, as many as fifteen children. Some of his daughters lived to nearly the age of sixty, and yet died some years before Mr. Wilson himself. Besides those children of his own who survive

him, he has left some five-and-twenty grandchildren. On the 9th of June, 1868, at about nine o'clock in the morning, this good and kindly old man passed quietly and painlessly away, not one of those sorrowing relatives who surrounded his bed knowing exactly the moment at which he breathed his last. Like a true and trusty soldier, he fought the long battle of life with high, and with enduring courage. All honour to his manful memory !

How rarely appropriate are Longfellow's life-ful and hopeful lines, to his energetic, unflagging, contented, and grateful spirit :—

“ LET US, THEN, BE UP AND DOING,
WITH A HEART FOR ANY FATE ;
STILL ACHIEVING, STILL PURSUING,
LEARN TO LABOUR AND TO WAIT.”

The foregoing is a statement of facts, little mingled with that deeper feeling of bereavement,

inseparable from the death of those for whom grief is most lasting, and strongest. Those who are nearest and dearest to him must long feel that his place is empty. He ever struggled, guided by the broadest principles, after that which he believed to be the pursuit of truth. All that could promote the good of Society, Freedom, Knowledge, Science, and Humanity, were dear to him. Around such a nature affection must necessarily have grappled, and long and lovingly will recollection cling to his remembrance. He was full of energetic consistency, and he shrank instinctively from compromise. The spirit and power of such a man must in some degree remain, though the life itself may have passed away. His was a pure, direct, and healthful nature, ever controlled by wholesome and ennobling influences, and some of those whom he has left behind will, doubtless, feel their lives henceforth impoverished, by that

which must be to them indeed an irreparable loss.

Mr. Wilson was buried at Highgate Cemetery, on Monday, the 15th of June, 1868.

June 25th, 1868.



NOTICES, 1868.

NOTICES, 1868.

THE following Notices have appeared in the public Journals, and Magazines, of London ; and they have, one or other of them, been copied into the provincial papers, far and wide, throughout England, Scotland, and Ireland.

NOTICES

FROM

THE PUBLIC JOURNALS AND
MAGAZINES.

1868.

—:O:—

From “**THE DAILY NEWS**,” Wednesday,
June 10th, 1868.

“MR. EFFINGHAM WILSON, the well-known
City publisher, died this morning (9th June) at
the age of 85.”

—

From “**THE STANDARD**,” Friday, June 12th,
1868.

DEATH OF MR. EFFINGHAM WILSON.—“The
well-known and respected publisher, Mr. Effing-
ham Wilson, whose name has for more than 50
years been associated with mercantile and com-

mercial literature, died on Tuesday morning last, at the mature age of 85. No publisher, it may be stated, has done more real service in enlightening the community by the issue of standard works on commerce and banking than the late lamented gentleman."

From "THE BULLIONIST," Saturday,
June 13th, 1868.

DEATH OF MR. EFFINGHAM WILSON.—"The well-known and respected publisher, Mr. Effingham Wilson, whose name has for more than 50 years been associated with mercantile and commercial literature, died on Tuesday morning last, at the mature age of 85. No publisher, it may be stated, has done more real service in enlightening the community by the issue of standard works on commerce and banking than the late lamented gentleman. He was well appreciated in all circles for his excellent qualities, and leaves behind him an enduring name."
—*Copied from THE STANDARD, with an additional sentence.*

From "THE CITY PRESS," Saturday,
June 13th, 1868.

DEATH OF MR. EFFINGHAM WILSON.—“ We have to record the death of one of the oldest and most respected members of the publishing trade, in the person of Mr. Effingham Wilson, of the Royal Exchange, which took place on Tuesday morning last, at the age of eighty-five. Mr. Wilson has been favourably known for upwards of fifty years in the City as an enterprising man, and his establishment has, during that long period, been famed for the issue of useful works on the theory and practice of commerce and banking. The mercantile world owe something to the memory of one whose earnest endeavours had always been directed to the enlightenment of his fellow-citizens, by laying before them solid commercial knowledge, so essential to every one engaged in carrying out gigantic commercial and banking operations in this vast metropolis.”

From "THE MORNING ADVERTISER,"
Saturday, June 13th, 1868.

DEATH OF MR. EFFINGHAM WILSON.—"We have to record the death of one of the oldest and most respected members of the publishing trade, in the person of Mr. Effingham Wilson, of the Royal Exchange, which took place on Tuesday morning last, at the age of eighty-five. Mr. Wilson had been favourably known for upwards of fifty years in the City as an enterprising man, and his establishment has, during that long period, been famed for the issue of useful works on the theory and practice of commerce and banking. The mercantile world owe something to the memory of one whose earnest endeavours had always been directed to the enlightenment of his fellow-citizens, by laying before them solid commercial knowledge, so essential to every one engaged in carrying out gigantic commercial and banking operations in this vast metropolis."—*Copied from "THE CITY PRESS," without alteration.*

From "THE PALL MALL GAZETTE,"
Saturday, June 13th, 1868.

DEATH OF MR. EFFINGHAM WILSON.—"The *City Press* records the death of Mr. Effingham Wilson, of the Royal Exchange, which took place on Tuesday morning last, at the age of eighty-five. It says:—'Mr. Wilson had been favourably known for upwards of fifty years in the City as an enterprising man, and his establishment has, during that long period, been famed for the issue of useful works on the theory and practice of commerce and banking. The mercantile world owe something to the memory of one whose earnest endeavours had always been directed to the enlightenment of his fellow-citizens, by laying before them solid commercial knowledge, so essential to every one engaged in carrying out gigantic commercial and banking operations in this vast metropolis.' "

From "THE PUBLISHERS' CIRCULAR,"
Monday, June 15th, 1868.

DEATH OF MR. EFFINGHAM WILSON.—"On Tuesday, the 9th inst., died Mr. Effingham Wilson, bookseller and publisher, of the Royal Exchange, aged eighty-five years. At his death Mr. Wilson must undoubtedly have been the father of the London trade, as Mr. Thomas Brown, late of the house of Longmans & Co., who might have had an equal claim to the title, has retired from business. Nearly half a century ago Mr. Wilson was known as an active and enterprising publisher of general literature and tastefully illustrated books, under the shadow of the old Royal Exchange, to which position he remained constant in its renovated existence. Of late years Mr. Wilson's line of publication became more subject to the influence of the locality, and he was the medium through whom the works of the mercantile, banking, and insurance magnates of the City—the Hankeys, Goschens, &c.—were made public. He well deserves the tribute thus paid to his memory

by the *City Press*.:—‘Mr. Wilson had been favourably known for upwards of fifty years in the City as an enterprising man, and his establishment has, during that long period, been famed for the issue of useful works on the theory and practice of commerce and banking. The mercantile world owe something to the memory of one whose earnest endeavours had always been directed to the enlightenment of his fellow-citizens, by laying before them solid commercial knowledge, so essential to every one engaged in carrying out gigantic commercial and banking operations in this vast metropolis.’”

From “THE GLOBE,” Tuesday, June 16th, 1868.

FUNERAL OF MR. EFFINGHAM WILSON.—“The funeral of Mr. Effingham Wilson, publisher, of the Royal Exchange, took place yesterday, and, although conducted in a quiet, unpretending manner, many will feel the loss of one who formed a link between this and the last generation of no ordinary character and interest. For

fifty years Mr. Wilson has been known as an upright and energetic man, and has borne an honoured name to the tomb, at the advanced age of eighty-five years. Mr. Wilson published many of the most important commercial works which have appeared in this country during the last half century, and it is no exaggeration to say that his name was known throughout England. Some thirty or forty years ago his business was of a more general character, including novels and poems, and it is worthy of note that he was the very first publisher of our Poet Laureate, Mr. Tennyson."

From "THE HORNET," Wednesday, June
17th, 1868.

EFFINGHAM WILSON.—"Death has recently stricken down one of the oldest and most respected citizens of London. On Tuesday last, at his daughter's residence in Mildmay Park, at the ripe age of eighty-five, peacefully retired from the world Mr. Effingham Wilson, of the Royal Exchange. For sixty years he had been

a busy worker in the City, making his corner shop at the Royal Exchange celebrated as the birthplace of many useful and instructive works on commercial and banking affairs. Nurtured at the old Conservative bookshop in Cornhill, which some seventy years ago was known by the sign of 'The Bible, Crown, and Constitution,' he, when a young man, started in business for himself in the same spot that still bears his name. Twenty years before the fire occurred which consumed the old Exchange, as well as his shop, he began his active career; and there are few who remember his kindly acts and his comely features but will regret that he has gone for ever. He had seen extraordinary changes, both in the extent and the manner of conducting business, but his ready mind caught at each improvement as it presented itself, and the result is that at the present time the firm of Effingham Wilson is known throughout the world as one of the foremost houses in the publishing trade. The old publisher's son, who is in the full prime of life, has caught his father's energy, and still carries on the business."

From "THE MONEY MARKET REVIEW,"
Saturday, June 20th, 1868.

THE LATE EFFINGHAM WILSON.—"The oldest if not the chief of the commercial publishers and stationers of the City—Effingham Wilson—after a career of no ordinary duration, varied by several incidents of no ordinary character, has recently departed from amongst us, at the ripe age of *eighty-five*. Mr. Wilson, we believe, was descended from an old Yorkshire family, and was originally destined for the medical profession. Whilst yet a youth, however, he gave up that profession, and came to seek his fortune in London, where, after some time spent in a house in Paternoster Row, he set up as a publisher and stationer. Of late years his establishment has been best known as the principal house for the issue of mercantile works. In the early portion of his long career, however, Mr. Wilson took an active part in politics, on the extreme Liberal side. He was the publisher of some of the earlier works of Jeremy Bentham. He was the publisher also of Wade's celebrated 'Black Book,' in which the pensions and jobberies of the Court

and aristocracy of that day were ruthlessly exposed to the indignation of the country. The book, though costly, had an enormous sale, and created an immense sensation, and there is no doubt it contributed much to arouse that spirit which ultimately carried the Reform Bill of 1832. How are times changed since then! John Wade, the author of that book, is now in the receipt of a pension from the Crown, and the instrument in procuring that pension for him was the son of his old publisher! It may also be mentioned that Mr. Wilson was the first publisher of Alfred Tennyson, and of the works of Thomas Campbell in a complete form.

Effingham Wilson was a man of strong impulses, great moral courage, and unswerving determination, of all which his conflict with the leading journal many years ago was a memorable example. The journal in question punished him for years by sedulously ignoring both him and his publications, but he never condescended to complain. At a later period, when the hatchet was buried between them, Mr. Wilson's publications were noticed with the same impartiality as those of other publishers. A feature

of the late Mr. Wilson's character was a generous inclination to help those who needed help, either in politics, in literature, or in business ; and there may be many now living who can testify to the value of the services he has rendered to them. He was one of the occupants of the Royal Exchange when it was burnt down, and on that occasion his property was uninsured. At this time he found many more cordial friends and admirers than he had supposed that he possessed. The fire took place in 1838, now thirty years ago, and Mr. Wilson returned to the Exchange so soon as it was rebuilt."

From "THE HACKNEY AND KINGSLAND GAZETTE," Saturday, June 20th, 1868.

DEATH OF MR. EFFINGHAM WILSON.—"Mr. Effingham Wilson, the well-known publisher at the Royal Exchange, died last week at the age of eighty-five. For half a century he was an enterprising City publisher, and launched forth books which fear or prejudice deterred many others from doing."

From "THE ATHENÆUM," Saturday,
June 27th, 1868.

DEATH OF MR. EFFINGHAM WILSON.—"City papers announce the death of Mr. Effingham Wilson, publisher, of the Royal Exchange. Mr. Wilson will be remembered in literary history as the first publisher of Alfred Tennyson."

From "THE EVENING STAR," Saturday,
June 27th, 1868.

DEATH OF MR. EFFINGHAM WILSON.—"City papers announce the death of Mr. Effingham Wilson, publisher, of the Royal Exchange. Mr. Wilson will be remembered in literary history as the first publisher of Alfred Tennyson."—
Copied from "THE ATHENÆUM."

From "THE SUNDAY TIMES," Saturday,
June 27th, 1868.

DEATH OF MR. EFFINGHAM WILSON.—"Mr. Effingham Wilson, who died the other day, was

one of the oldest, if not the oldest, of London publishers. He was eighty-five years of age. Fifty years ago he commenced business, and was a great publisher of very miscellaneous works, including novels, poems, pamphlets, and books on commerce. Among other things it may be recorded here that he was Alfred Tennyson's first publisher."

From "THE CENSOR," Saturday, June 27th,
1868.

"The death of Mr. Effingham Wilson, the publisher, is announced. It is a curious fact, well worth noting, that although this gentleman was known as a publisher of works on political economy and productions of a generally dry and prosaic character, he gave to the world both Tennyson's and Browning's first volumes of poems. Surely it was a singular chance that assigned to Mr. Wilson the honour of introducing to the world two such poets!"

From "THE BOOKSELLER," Wednesday,
July 1st, 1868.

DEATH OF MR. EFFINGHAM WILSON.—“ At the residence of his daughter, 38, Mildmay Park, aged eighty-five, Mr. Effingham Wilson, the well-known bookseller and publisher of the Royal Exchange, died on the 9th of June. Mr. Wilson was born in 1783, at Ravensworth, near Richmond, Yorkshire, but, when quite young, he determined to seek his fortune in London, to which city he wended his way about 1802, and entered the service of Mr. Aspern, who, in the December of that year, succeeded to the business of the deceased Mr. Sewell. Aspern published the ‘European Magazine,’ and adopted the sign of the Bible and Crown to testify his loyalty; but it is said that of the Bible he knew little more than the outside. From Aspern’s Mr. Wilson went to Mr. Thomas Hurst, and remained with him till commencing business on his own account, first in Paternoster Row, and afterwards at the south-eastern corner of the Royal Exchange. At the time he commenced business, England

was engaged in the most tremendous war of modern times. Bonaparte was triumphant everywhere but at sea. Toryism was rampant at home, and any one who spoke, or wrote, or published against the doings of the Government, was set down as a traitor. It required some degree of courage in a young beginner to associate with the Liberal Men of the day. Of all the works he published, the one which attracted most attention was 'The Black Book.' During the agitation caused by the Reform movement of 1830-1832, this book was constantly quoted by one party and condemned by the other. The abuses it exposed had considerable influence upon the country at large. Mr. Howitt's 'Popular History of Priestcraft' was another book which brought much abuse upon the publisher; but Mr. Wilson published many other works of a less exceptional character. He was the first publisher of the Poet Laureate's works, in 1830; and, at different times, brought out Wade's 'History of the Middle and Working Classes,' the same author's useful 'History of England, Chronologically Arranged,' Mr. J. Y. Akerman's 'Roman Coins,' Mr. Cowden Clarke's 'Riches

of Chaucer,' Hazlitt's 'Life of Napoleon,' 'Fitzgeorge' (George IV.), and 'Arthur Coningsby,' Winkle's 'Cathedrals of Great Britain,' and Mrs. Austin's charming 'Story without an End.' More recently he published some excellent school books; and one of his latest issues was a treatise on the 'Theory of Foreign Exchanges,' by the Right Hon. G. J. Goschen. In the fire which broke out on January 10th, 1838, and destroyed the Royal Exchange, it was Mr. Wilson's misfortune to lose nearly all his stock. There was a geniality and kindliness of disposition about Mr. Wilson that endeared him to a large circle of friends. He was also full of anecdotes of past celebrities. He was blessed with excellent health, and was happy in his family,—a large one, fifteen children. His third son, who was with his father for twenty-five years, still continues the business under the old name."

From "THE GENTLEMAN'S MAGAZINE,"
July, 1868.

DEATH OF MR. EFFINGHAM WILSON.—"Another death of the month is that of Mr. Effingham Wilson, the eminent publisher of the Royal Exchange, at the age of 85. He formed one of the last of the literary links between this generation and the last, and was well known in City circles and in the world of literature as an upright, energetic, and honourable man. He published many most important commercial works, and also a variety of pamphlets relating to questions of trade, currency, civil reform, &c. Some thirty or forty years ago, however, his business was of a more miscellaneous character, including many novels and poems; and it is perhaps worthy of note here to record that he was the very first publisher under whose auspices the public made the acquaintance of Alfred Tennyson."

NOTICES, 1844.

NOTICES, 1844.

WHEN Mr. Effingham Wilson returned to the Royal Exchange, after the rebuilding in 1844, the following comments, welcoming his reinstatement, appeared in the papers the names of which are attached. The first work issued by Mr. Wilson, after his return, was the occasion taken by the Press thus cordially to herald his re-occupation of his old position.

These Notices, belonging to a past time as they do, are added only because it is believed that they are calculated to honour, in an increased degree, the memory of Mr. Wilson.

NOTICES OF THE PRESS.

1844.

—————:O:—————

“THE BRITANNIA.”

“We are glad to welcome this publisher back to his old place of business, after a seven years’ absence. His house has issued many valuable commercial works, and for that reason he could not be established in a more appropriate site than the great mart of commerce, the Royal Exchange. He seems, like the building itself, to have risen, phoenix-like, from the flames.”

—————

“BELL’S WEEKLY MESSENGER.”

“We wish success to Mr. Effingham Wilson, who was burnt out by the fire of 1838, and who has now returned to his old locality.”

"THE MORNING ADVERTISER."

"It is gratifying to notice that the well-known words, in former times, 'Published by Effingham Wilson, Royal Exchange,' are once more appended to the foot of a title-page. After an absence of nearly seven years, he has returned to his old locality in London's 'Burse,' whence, previous to the fire that destroyed the last edifice, he issued so many interesting and valuable works, and where he had been established upwards of thirty years. Doubtless, in that new habitation, increased success will attend his labours, and recompense him for losses suffered by him in common with so many others in the destructive fire of 1838."

"THE LITERARY GAZETTE."

"With the opening of the new Royal Exchange, Mr. Effingham Wilson has re-opened his publishing business by its side, as if he were part and parcel of the edifice. It was therefore both appropriate and *àpropos* in him to signalize his beginning again with the present neat volume."

“THE ATLAS.”

“Mr. Effingham Wilson, the publisher of this volume, was driven from the spot where he had been established for thirty years by the fire in 1838, which destroyed the entire erection ; and he is now about to return to his old locality. We trust that before long Mr. Wilson may recover the severe losses which that calamitous event occasioned.”

“THE WEEKLY DISPATCH.”

“Mr. Effingham Wilson has, we perceive, returned to his old locality, after an absence of nearly seven years—a situation in which we hope he will recover some of those extensive losses he sustained by the failure of his publishing agents, in the American panic of 1836–37 ; the burning down of the Exchange in 1838, and his loss by that event ; and by his absence from a post where he had been established for thirty years.”

“THE SPECTATOR.”

“The Royal Exchange is not the only place where the late opening will cause the grasshopper—the Gresham crest—to flourish ; for Mr. Effingham Wilson returns to his old locality.”

“THE WEEKLY CHRONICLE.”

“Mr. Effingham Wilson, we see, has returned to his old quarters (from which he was burnt out) in the Exchange, after an absence of years, during which it has been rebuilding, and, very appropriately, the very first book he publishes is an account of the building he is newly lodged in, and of its predecessors which have been destroyed.”

“THE EXAMINER.”

“We are glad to be able to congratulate Mr. Wilson on his reinstatement, in the corner of a building which has risen in the place of that wherein he was established for so many years, and in which he printed a number of useful reform publications in days when reform was less fashionable than it has been since.”

“THE MORNING CHRONICLE.”

“A neat little volume has just been published by Effingham Wilson, who, we are glad to see, has returned to the Royal Exchange, and which appears very opportunely to gratify public curiosity respecting the annals of the Palace of London Merchants.”

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